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General and complete disarmament

Sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

Security Council
Sixty-fifth year

Identical letters dated 29 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith declarations by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in connection with the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (annex I) and the sixty-fifth anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have these declarations circulated as documents of the current session of the General Assembly under agenda items 96 and 126, respectively, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vitaly **Churkin**

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Annex I to the identical letters dated 29 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in connection with the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

25 March 2010 Moscow

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, aware of the need to ensure the effective functioning of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as one of the support mechanisms of the collective security system, reaffirm our strong support for the Treaty and welcome multilateral efforts to strengthen it.

On the basis of objective and comprehensive analysis of past problems and current challenges in the area of nuclear non-proliferation, the forthcoming 2010 NPT Review Conference should develop an agreed package of measures aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the Treaty and ensuring that all parties to the Treaty unconditionally comply with their obligations on the basis of the indivisibility of its three fundamental pillars: non-proliferation, disarmament and the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Contemporary proliferation threats can and must be eliminated on the basis of the Treaty. We call for the verification capabilities of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to be strengthened and expanded, including by establishing additional protocols to IAEA safeguards agreements as the universally accepted standard for verifying NPT parties' compliance with their non-proliferation obligations.

Reaffirming our commitment to the noble goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, we support the efforts of States related to the fulfilment of their obligations under article VI of the Treaty. The conclusion of a new legally binding treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States on the further reduction and limitation of strategic offensive weapons will make a substantive contribution to disarmament efforts, bearing in mind the inseparable link between such reductions and the deployment of global anti-ballistic missile defence systems.

We look forward to all nuclear-weapon States systematically joining the disarmament efforts of the Russian Federation and the United States.

We support globalizing the obligations in the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of their Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles.

We are convinced of the need to give a new impetus to multilateral formats. Important steps in the process of nuclear disarmament and in strengthening the non-proliferation regime should be: the swift entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, the launch at the Conference on Disarmament of

negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons; and the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones. We note with satisfaction the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, and the holding of the first consultative meeting of its States parties. We emphasize the role of this zone in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination.

At the same time, we note the need for every possible assistance in matters related to the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in Central Asia.

Stressing the importance of increasing confidence among States, we support discussion at the 2010 NPT Review Conference of non-nuclear-weapon States party to the Treaty receiving assurances that nuclear weapons will not be used against them. We express our readiness to facilitate the swift conclusion of the appropriate arrangements.

The 2010 NPT Review Conference should determine how best to ensure that all NPT State parties have unhindered access to the benefits of the peaceful use of nuclear energy, provided that they comply with their non-proliferation obligations in good faith. We emphasize the relevance of the initiative to develop a global nuclear energy infrastructure and to establish international centres providing nuclear fuel cycle services. We are committed to working constructively with all NPT States parties in order to ensure the success of the 2010 Review Conference and to consolidate international efforts aimed at maximizing the Treaty's potential with a view to preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons while promoting disarmament and peaceful nuclear cooperation.

Annex II to the identical letters dated 29 March 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in connection with the sixty-fifth anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945

25 March 2010 Moscow

The forthcoming sixty-fifth anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, won through the heroism and self-sacrifice of the peoples of our countries, reminds us once more of the massive loss of human life and the achievement of those who, at the cost of their lives, deprivation and suffering, brought liberation and peace to the world in the struggle against fascism. We honour and respect their memories.

The tragic lessons of history from the troubled war years have not been forgotten; they live on in the minds of people and call on us to act in defence of peace.

We consider unacceptable any attempts to revise the historical significance of the victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 and the outcome of the Second World War, or to distort the assessment of that period.

Today humanity is facing a broad range of serious security threats and challenges, and a growth in manifestations of neo-Nazi ideology, extremism and xenophobia. In this context, the collective efforts during the Second World War by the international community to ensure its subsequent peaceful and stable development take on particular significance.

The States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization support close cooperation with other international organizations and are determined, through collective action, to do their utmost to strengthen regional and international security and stability, and to resolve conflicts by exclusively peaceful means.

Marking the glorious anniversary of the victory, the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization call on the international community to work together to establish a world order based on the principles of international law and equal and indivisible security for all countries.